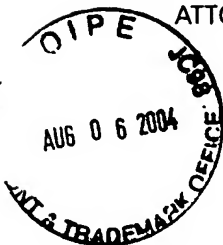


IFW

**Sterne Kessler
Goldstein Fox**
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne
Edward J. Kessler
Jorge A. Goldstein
David K.S. Cornwell
Robert W. Esmond
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin
Michele A. Cimbala
Michael B. Ray
Robert E. Sokohl
Eric K. Steffe
Michael Q. Lee
Steven R. Ludwig
John M. Covert
Linda E. Alcorn
Robert C. Millonig
Lawrence B. Bugaisky
Donald J. Featherstone
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.
Patrick E. Garrett
Jeffrey T. Helvey
Heidi L. Kraus
Albert L. Ferro*
Donald R. Banowitz
Peter A. Jackman
Teresa U. Medler
Jeffrey S. Weaver
Kendrick P. Patterson
Vincent L. Capuano
Eldora Ellison Floyd
Thomas C. Fiala
Brian J. Del Buono
Virgil Lee Beaston
Theodore A. Wood
Elizabeth J. Haanes

Joseph S. Ostroff
Frank R. Cottingham
Christine M. Lhulier
Rae Lynn Prengaman
George S. Bardmesser
Daniel A. Klein*
Jason D. Eisenberg
Michael D. Specht
Andrea J. Kamage
Tracy L. Muller*
LuAnne M. DeSantis
Ann E. Summerfield
Tiera S. Coston
Aric W. Ledford*
Helene C. Carlson
Timothy A. Doyle*
Jessica L. Parezo
Gabby L. Longworth*

Lori A. Gordon*
Nicole D. Dretar*
Ted J. Ebersole
Jyoti C. Iyer*
Laura A. Vogel

Registered Patent Agents*
Karen R. Markowicz
Nancy J. Leith
Matthew J. Dowd
Aaron L. Schwartz
Katrina Yujian Pei Quach
Bryan L. Skelton
Robert A. Schwartzman
Teresa A. Colella
Jeffrey S. Lundgren
Victoria S. Rutherford
Michelle K. Holoubek

Robert H. DeSelms
Simon J. Elliott
Julie A. Heider
Mita Mukherjee
Scott M. Woodhouse
Michael G. Penn
Christopher J. Walsh

Of Counsel
Kenneth C. Bass III
Evan R. Smith
Marvin C. Guthrie

*Admitted only in Maryland
*Admitted only in Virginia
*Practice Limited to
Federal Agencies

August 6, 2004

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 772-8783
INTERNET ADDRESS:
RGUEST@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Mail Stop Amendment

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 10/812,028; Filed: March 30, 2004
For: **Cast Hot Runner Manifold For Injection Molding Apparatus**
Inventors: Gellert *et al.*
Our Ref: 2107.0650001/TUM/RPG

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO-1449 listing 22 documents (AA1-AN1, BA1-BD1, CA1, CB1, CC2 and CD2);
3. Copies of cited documents BA1-BD1, CA1, CB1, CC2 and CD2; and
4. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

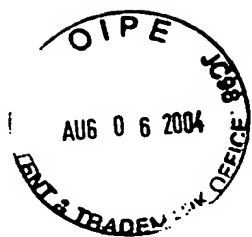
Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Rae Lynn P. Guest
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 53,482

TUM/RPG/dbj
Enclosures

295886_1.DOC



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Gellert *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/812,028

Filed: March 30, 2004

For: **Cast Hot Runner Manifold For
Injection Molding Apparatus**

Confirmation No.: 2797

Art Unit: 1722

Examiner: *To be assigned*

Atty. Docket: 2107.0650001/TUM/RPG

Information Disclosure Statement

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Where the publication date of a listed document does not provide a month of publication, the year of publication of the listed document is sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date so that the month of publication is not in issue. Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- ☐ 1. Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- ☒ 2. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application (CPA), OR within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits OR before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. No statement or fee is required.
- ☐ 3. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

- ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ c. Attached is our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$_____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- ☐ 4. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$_____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:
- ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign

application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

- ☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ 5. The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. Submission of an English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.
- ☒ 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language documents BA1 and BB1 are provided by the translations attached thereto. Further, translations of abstracts attached to documents BC1 and BD1 provide a concise explanation of the relevance thereof.
- ☒ 7. Copies of the documents BA1-BD1, CA1, CB1, CC2 and CD2 are submitted herewith.
- ☐ 8. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. _____, filed

_____, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C.

§ 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).

☒ 9. No copies of U.S. patents and patent application publications cited on the attached Form PTO-1449 are submitted in accordance with 1276 OG 55 because this application was filed after June 30, 2003.

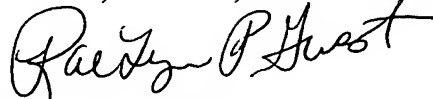
☐ 10. It is expected that the examiner will review the prosecution and cited art in the parent application no(s). _____ in accordance with MPEP 2001.06(b), and indicate in the next communication from the office that the art cited in the earlier prosecution history has been reviewed in connection with the present application.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Rae Lynn P. Guest
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 53,482

Date: August 6, 2004

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600

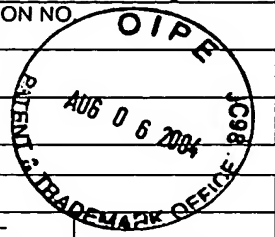
FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

ATTY. DOCKET NO.
2107.0650001/TUM/RPG
FIRST NAMED INVENTOR
Gellert et al.
FILING DATE
March 30, 2004

APPLICATION NO.
10/812,028

ART UNIT
1722

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA1	3,477,097	Nov. 11, 1969	Plymale			
	AB1	3,923,209	Dec. 2, 1975	Roy			
	AC1	4,238,671	Dec. 9, 1980	Gellert			
	AD1	4,301,775	Nov. 24, 1981	Smart et al.			
	AE1	4,648,546	Mar. 10, 1987	Gellert			
	AF1	4,887,557	Dec. 19, 1989	Sukimoto et al.			
	AG1	5,096,411	Mar. 17, 1992	Gellert			
	AH1	5,366,369	Nov. 22, 1994	Gellert			
	AI1	5,496,168	Mar. 5, 1996	Renwick			
	AJ1	5,762,976	Jun. 9, 1998	Brown			
	AK1	6,149,423	Nov. 21, 2000	Manz			
	AL1	6,230,384	May 15, 2001	Gellert et al.			
	AM1	6,419,476	Jul. 16, 2002	Ouellette			
	AN1	6,460,598	Oct. 8, 2002	Adams et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION
	BA1	EP 0480213	Aug. 23, 1995	Europe			X Yes No
	BB1	EP 0492296	Apr. 12, 1995	Europe			X Yes No
	BC1	JP 2002-011756	Jan. 15, 2002	Japan			X Yes No
	BD1	WO 95/00312	Jan. 5, 1995	PCT			X Yes No

OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

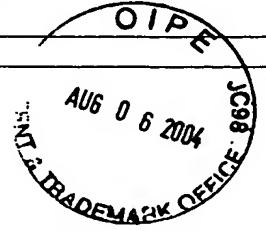
	CA	1	XINTech Hot Runner Product Information (date Unknown).
	CB	1	Unitemp Product Literature Pages 2-3 to 2-11 (Jan. 2000).

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTATTY. DOCKET NO.
2107.0650001/TUM/RPGAPPLICATION NO.
10/812,028FIRST NAMED INVENTOR
Gellert et al.FILING DATE
March 30, 2004ART UNIT
1722

CC

2

Image of Unitemp Manifold Product (date Unknown).

CD

2

Keoleian et al., "Life Cycle Design of Air Intake Manifolds," Research study sponsored by School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan & Ford Motor Co. (Feb. 1999).

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.